

REMARKS

Status of the Claims

Claims 1, 2, 5 and 8-12 are pending in the present application. Claims 3, 4, 6 and 7 have been cancelled without prejudice or disclaimer of the subject matter contained therein.

Rejection of Claims Under 35 U.S.C. 112

Claims 11 and 12 are rejected by the Examiner under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, for the reasons set forth in paragraph 3 of the Office Action. This rejection is respectfully traversed. Reconsideration and withdrawal thereof are requested.

The Examiner's position is that claims 11 and 12 are vague and indefinite in that these claims depend on cancelled claims 3 and 4, respectively. The Examiner is correct. In response, claims 11 and 12 are amended to depend upon claims 5 and 8, respectively. Accordingly, the rejection should be withdrawn by the Examiner.

The Examiner should further note that claims 7 and 9 are duplicative since both claims are identical in scope and both claims depend upon claim 1. Accordingly, duplicate claim 7 has been cancelled.

Allowable Subject Matter


Applicants gratefully acknowledge that claims 1, 2 and 5-10 are allowed.

If necessary, the Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies, to charge payment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 02-2448 for any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16 or 1.17; particularly, extension of time fees.

Respectfully submitted,

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By

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